

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 11, line 13 and ending at page 12, line 5.

(a) to (f) of Fig. 3 show the ~~basal~~ basic concept of the present invention. (a) of Fig. 3 shows a step of bringing a reaction liquid 20 into contact with a pigment ink 30 on the top surface of a recording medium 10, in other words, it shows the instant the pigment ink 30 is applied to the recording medium 10 with its top surface having been provided with the reaction liquid 20 in advance and comes in contact with the reaction liquid 20. In this step, from the viewpoint of bringing the reaction liquid and the pigment ink into contact with each other in a liquid state and of immediate fixing of a film-like aggregate on the recording medium, the ~~reaction liquid pigment ink~~ has a penetration higher than that of the ~~pigment ink reaction liquid~~. Specifically, the ~~reaction liquid pigment ink~~ has a surface tension lower than that of the ~~pigment ink reaction liquid~~. The relationship between the surface tension of the reaction liquid and that of the pigment ink can be adjusted by changing the ratio of the surfactant content in the reaction liquid and in the pigment ink.